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CLAIMS

1 1. A method for establishing the concealment order of macroblocks in a rectangular
2 array of having opposed sides, comprising the step of:
3 concealing the macroblocks having missing/corrupted pixel values by progressing in a
4 direction of one of the larger of the sides of the array.

1 2. The method according to claim 1 comprising the step of progressively concealing
2 in opposite directions towards each of the two larger sides of the array until reaching a central
3 portion of the array.

1 3. A method of concealing macroblocks in a rectangular array of N rows and M
2 columns where N is larger than M, comprising the step of:
3 concealing macroblocks having missing/corrupted pixel values by progressing
4 horizontally by rows in at least one of a top-down and bottom up directions.

1 4. The method according to claim 3 wherein concealment progresses horizontally by
2 rows simultaneously in a top-down direction and in a bottom-up direction.

1 5. The method according to claim 3 wherein concealment progresses horizontally by
2 rows exclusively in a top-down direction.

1 6. The method according to claim 3 wherein concealment progresses horizontally by
2 rows exclusively in a bottom-up direction.

1 7. The method according to claim 3 wherein macroblocks in each row are scanned in
2 one of a left-to-right direction and a right-to-left direction.

1 8. The method according to claim 7 where the macroblocks in successive rows are
2 alternately scanned from left-to-right and right-to-left.

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1 9. The method according to claim 3 wherein the macroblocks in all rows are
2 concealed from left-to-right.

1 10. The method according to claim 3 wherein the macroblocks in all rows are
2 concealed from right-to-left.

1 11. The method according to claim 5 wherein macroblocks are concealed in even
2 rows from left-to-right.

1 12. The method according to claim 5 wherein macroblocks are concealed in odd rows
2 from right-to-left.

1 13. The method according to claim 5 wherein macroblocks are concealed in even
2 rows from right-to-left.

1 14. The method according to claim 5 wherein macroblocks are concealed in odd rows
2 from left-to-right.

1 15. The method according to claim 3 further comprising the steps of:
2 arranging a non-rectangular array of macroblocks having missing/corrupted pixel values
3 into at least two rectangular sub-arrays of macroblocks prior to undertaking concealment, and
4 concealing each of sub-arrays independently.